The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, the 3rd day of April 1923, M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai Avargal, Deputy President, presiding.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplemeatnry question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Muhammadans in the Subordinate Educational Service.

926 *Q.*—Mr. A. D. M. Bavotti Sahib: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Muhammadan population of Malabar is almost equivalent to the total Muhammadan population of the other districts of the Presidency; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that no higher appointment in the Educational Department has ever been given to Muhammadans of Malabar?

A.—(*a*) Muhammadans in Malabar form about 35 per cent of the total Muhammadan population of the Presidency.

(*b*) No.

Swimming competition among boy scouts.

927 *Q.*—Mr. L. C. Guruswami: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact—

(1) that the Boys' Scout Association in Madras is arranging for a swimming competition among the boy scouts;

(2) that a member of this competition committee suggested to the committee that only boy scouts who have passed the swimming test should be allowed to compete;

(3) that the above suggestion was not accepted by the committee on the plea that a sufficient number of scouts who have passed the test are not available for this competition;

(4) that some of the boy scouts were trained for this competition in the Government Museum tank under the supervision of Dr. Gravely; and if so, how many were trained; and

(5) that one of the scouts of the Muthialpet High School while undergoing this training in the Government Museum tank got drowned and died?

A.—(1) to (4) The Government have no information.

(5) A boy was accidentally drowned in the Museum tank on the 3rd February 1923, but it does not appear from the evidence given at the inquest that he was being trained for or was expected to take part in any competition.